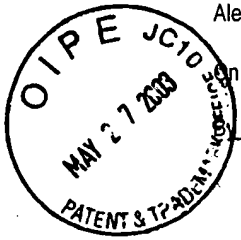


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

VIP
MA
#14
PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: S-9



May 21, 2003

Monika Kafka

Monika Kafka

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SHARPS, LEWIS et al.

Application No.: 09/676,194

Filed: September 9, 2000

For: METHODS FOR REPAIRING
DAMAGED INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

Examiner: COHEN, LEE

Art Unit: 3739

LETTER TO OFFICIAL
DRAFTSPERSON

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the Notice of Allowability dated 5/25/03, Applicant submits 47 sheets of formal drawings to be made of record in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

May 21, 2003

Richard R. Batt
Reg. No. 43,485

ArthroCare Corporation
680 Vaqueros Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94085
(408) 736-0224

02/03

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on May 21, 2003

Monika Kafka

Monika Kafka

A circular stamp from the Office of Intellectual Property (OIP). The text "OIP EJC" is curved along the top inner edge. The date "MAY 27 2003" is stamped in the center. The text "PATENT & TRADEMARK" is curved along the bottom inner edge.

Attorney Docket No. S-9

In re application of:

SHARPS, LEWIS et al.

Application No.: 09/676,194

Filed: September 9, 2000

**For: METHODS FOR REPAIRING
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Examiner: Cohen, Lee

Art Unit: 3739

CHANGE IN CLAIM OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant no longer wishes to claim small entity status for the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard R. Batt
Reg. No. 43,485

May 24, 2003